CITY OF MIAMI BEACH Office of the City Manager Letter to Commission No.



Date: October 20, 2004

To:

Mayor David Dermer and

Members of the City Commission

From:

Jorge M. Gonzalez

City Manager

Subject:

ANNUAL CHLORINATION OF WATER SUPPLY

This memorandum is to inform you that the Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department will start free chlorine treatment at its regional water plants beginning November 1, 2004 through November 14, 2004. Our residents may experience unusual chlorine taste or odor in the tap water during this period. However, these temporary conditions will not cause adverse health effects. This periodic change in chlorine treatment has taken place annually and will provide additional protection against bacteria.

In addition to Miami-Dade County's public notices published in local newspapers, the City Administration will announce the free chlorine treatment in Channel 20 and will place a brief notice in the City's E-Newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other concerns or questions.

JMGYREM\FHB\II

c: Róbert C. Middaugh, Assistant City Manager Fred H. Beckmann, Director of Public Works

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FACT SHEET for the ANNUAL PRACTICE OF FREE CHLORINE TREATMENT 1983 - 2004

- 1. The 2004 annual two-week period of free chlorine treatment begins November 1, 2004 and runs through November 14, 2004.
- 2. The annual free chlorine treatment is required by Miami-Dade County regulatory agencies: Health Department (Mr. Samir Elmir) and DERM (Mr. Harvey Kottke).
- 3. <u>Free chlorine</u> produces trihalomethanes (THM's). <u>Combined chlorine</u>, as normally applied, greatly reduces the formation of trihalomethanes.
- 4. Studies concerning the carcinogenic effect of THM's in drinking water are based on the consumption of 2 liters (slightly over 1/2 gallon) of tap water per day for 70 years. Short periods of exposure to increased levels of THM's should be of little health significance. Consuming water with elevated THM levels during this two-week treatment period will not result in any adverse health effects.
- 5. Public Notices announcing the "Free Chlorine Treatment Period" will be published in local newspapers. All hospitals, kidney dialysis centers and pet shops will be notified individually by certified mail. Wholesale customers will be similarly notified by letter.